

U.S. TENNIS BODY APPROVES VITAL RULES CHANGES

The Executive Committee Adopts New System of Scoring. TO SEND CHALLENGE Will Play for Davis Cup and a Similar Trophy for Women.

By DANIEL.

What was without question the most important meeting of the executive committee of the United States National Lawn Tennis Association in the history of that organization came to a close yesterday morning at the Waldorf-Astoria. The committee adopted many suggestions and reports which it will pass on to the general meeting of the association, which will be held in this city in February. There is little question that the recommendations will go through.

In addition to approving various highly important changes in the playing code, the most important of which are a new fault rule and a new scoring system, the executive committee took steps to challenge for the Davis cup. The challenge must be in by the first of March, so the committee decided to go ahead with plans for the matches, realizing that its action would be approved at the annual meeting. The committee passed this resolution:

Whereas, The annual meeting of 1919 voted to challenge for the Davis cup, and whereas challenges must reach the champion nation the first week in March, now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That all details incident to this international competition be referred to the executive committee of the U. S. N. L. T. A., with full power and instructions to delegate its authority as it may deem wise, its report to be referred to the annual meeting of 1920.

Women's International Event.

The committee also took steps to establish an international women tennis competition for women similar to that for the Davis cup. Mrs. George W. Nichols of Boston has offered the Hazel Wightman cup for such a competition and the committee voted to accept the offer and to get into communication with other national associations with a view to inaugurating the matches in this country next summer. The offer will have to be considered by the annual meeting, but there is no doubt that the cup will be accepted.

In the change in playing rules which have been determined on after three months of deliberation by S. W. Morrison, Edward C. Conlin, Beala C. Wright, Abraham Samuels, Jr., Vernon M. Washburn, Samuel Hardy and R. Norris Williams, the committee will claim attention wherever tennis is played. In order of appearance they are:

Rule 6—The fault rule.

Rule 20 (former rule 22)—Relating to scoring.

Resolution 20 (former regulation 23)—Relating to handicaps.

New Fault Rule.

The committee has swept aside the old fault rule and proposes instead the following: "Before commencing to serve, the server shall stand with both feet at rest behind, i. e., further from the net than the base line, and within the limits of the center mark and the side line. Both feet shall be kept behind the base line until the racket strikes the ball."

In arguing for this change, the committee pointed out that it greatly simplifies the interpretation of the rule by eliminating all argument about what constitutes a "hop, step, jump, etc., as mentioned in the present law. The main purpose of such a rule is to prevent the server from taking an unfair advantage in getting to the net. In the committee's judgment, if he is kept back of the base line until the racket strikes the ball it makes little difference what he does there.

New Method of Scoring.

The new rule 20 is even more striking because it discards the old system of scoring entirely and provides a 1-2-3 method that will make such a score as "15-love" only a memory. The rule speaks for itself:

"If the server win the first point the score is called 1 in. If the receiver win the first point the score is called 1 out. If each player win one point the score is called 1 all. If the server win the next point the score is called 3-1. If the receiver win it the score is called 3-2, and the scoring is continued in this manner until one player has won four points, when game is scored for that player, unless the other player has scored three points, when the score is called 4-3 or 3-4, as the case may be. The game is then played to seven points. Members of the committee and other players who have tried this new system admit that it is simple and that it has been long accustomed to the present scores. They agree, however, that it is readily understood, is easily applied and all believe that it will add materially to the game's present appeal.

Change Handicapping System.

The present method of handicapping also has been radically revised, for the following rule and simple table replace the elaborate computations that have been required for handicaps of the past:

"The method of handicapping shall consist of allotting to each player one or more points in a set, the points to be allotted to the points scored by each player in that set. The points scored shall be recorded at the end of each game, and at the conclusion of the set the allotted handicaps shall be added to this total. The player then having the greater number of points wins the set regardless of the number of games won or lost."

EXAMPLE

Handicap	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
First game	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Second game	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Third game	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Fourth game	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Fifth game	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Sixth game	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Seventh game	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Eighth game	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Ninth game	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Tenth game	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Eleventh game	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Twelfth game	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Thirteenth game	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Fourteenth game	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Fifteenth game	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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Nineteenth game	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Twentieth game	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20

A win the set.

In its report the committee says: "The arrangement of the rules differs from the present arrangement only in minor details and a few of the present laws have been stricken out and nearly an equal number has been added. There has been no change in the spirit of the laws."

Crowned Billiard Champion.



RALPH GREENLEAF

Final results in the tournament just closed in Philadelphia crowned Ralph Greenleaf of Wilmington, Del., king of pocket billiards of the country. The champion's showing was an impressive success. The honors just won mean much to him in a financial way. In addition to first prize money of \$1,500, he will draw a salary of \$2,400 a year from the Brunswick-Balke-Collender Company, and will receive an additional consideration of \$150 a week for an eighteen weeks' exhibition tour. Plainly the time this young man has spent in nursing the ivories on the green cloth has not been spent foolishly.

MODIFY RULES, FISHER GIVES SUGGESTIONS YOST CRAMSON REST

Michigan Mentor Wants Uniformity in Football Code. SOME PENALTIES SEVERE Believes Touchdown Should Not Be Nullified for Offense Like Clipping.

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—Changes that will, he says, go far toward bringing about uniform interpretation of football rules, some of which only few coaches, officials and players now agree on, will be suggested to the meeting this winter of the rules committee by Fielding H. Yost, coach of the University of Michigan since 1901, it became known today.

The proposed modifications would, he says, affect the play, according to Coach Yost.

It is not the spirit of the rules to take away touchdowns by inflicting penalties for fouls which had no bearing on the play, the Michigan mentor holds. In line with that idea he believes that the rules imposing ten yard penalties for "clipping," or running into an opponent after the ball has been declared dead, and for clipping, should be changed to apply to the punishment in such manner that loss of a touchdown, if one had been made, would not be caused by bringing the ball back to where it was put in play and measuring the distance from that point.

Coach Yost also favors strongly a penalty being levied against a team that is not on the field ready to play at the hour for the game to start. He cites as the football advisory committee, voted unanimously to adopt this policy regardless of what the Tigers' opponents may do in regard to numbering their players.

Mr. G. R. Murray, graduate treasurer of the athletic association, authorized the following statement, which will make Princeton's position clear: "In the past Princeton has numbered her players at different times, but gave the practice up because of the unwillingness of some of her competitors to number their own players. The action at this time is taken in recognition of the rights of the coaches to the fullest possible information concerning the identity of the players.

"Even if the numbering of the players should prove somewhat of a handicap in games, Princeton is quite ready to bear this burden, out of consideration for the interests of the patrons of the games."

WILLARD RELEASED ON BAIL

Arraigned on Charge of Profraternizing in Wood.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 13.—Joel Willard, former heavyweight pugilist champion, was arraigned before O. C. Claffin, U. S. District Commissioner for Kansas City, Kan., today on a charge of profraternizing in the law of cordwood from his farm near Lawrence, Kan. His preliminary hearing was set for January 3, 1920, and he was released on \$500 bond.

Willard surrendered voluntarily today to O. T. Wood, United States Marshal for Kansas. He brought with him two attorneys, Edward T. Rilling of Lawrence and Albert O. Justice of Ocala City, Kan. His attorneys entered no plea, merely asking that a date for his hearing be set.

A preliminary hearing for Willard charged with violation of the Lever act was held yesterday by Fred Robertson, United States District Attorney for Kansas.

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ALLEN SECOND IN NATIONAL CUE TOURNAMENT

Defeats Keogh, 125 to 30, and Wins Prize of \$1,250 in Billiard Play. MAKES HIGH RUN OF 61 Gives Splendid Exhibition—His Opponent Finishes in Third Place.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 13.—Featured by two splendid runs of 24 and 61, Bennie Allen of Kansas City won his final game in the National Pocket Billiard Tournament this afternoon from Jerome Keogh of Rochester, 125 to 30.

The players were tied for second place with six victories and two defeats, and by winning Allen gains the second money prize of \$1,250. He also has the privilege of going with the new champion, E. Ralph Greenleaf, on the tour of the United States, but announced after the match that he will return to his business in Kansas City. Promoter Benjamin then said that Keogh will accompany Greenleaf. For finishing third Keogh gets \$750. Allen has consented to play an exhibition match with Greenleaf at Camp Upton next Tuesday.

It took Allen only nine innings to complete his string of 125 balls. It was the second shortest match in the tournament. When Allen made his world's high run, record of 61 in the match against Edgar I. Ralph he went out in five innings, and for a while it looked as though he would duplicate that feat when he started his half of the fifth inning with a total of 27 points, but after running 32 made a scratch.

Allen Gets Run of 61.

Allen's playing in the fourth inning when he made his 61 was one of the brilliant bits of billiards during the tournament. He had the balls rolled nicely and poked out any number of difficult shots. His eighth counter was a hard cut shot, after missing the table. That left him a long corner shot on the No. 1 ball or a hard cut on the No. 14 in the side. He elected to try the No. 1 ball and missed it. Keogh was in almost the same spot as when Allen tried for the 1 ball, but he decided to try the side shot and made it much more easily. It looked as though Keogh might get scratched in the corner.

After failing to score a single ball in the sixth, seventh or eighth innings, Allen went in with a scratch. He had a run of seven. Only two safeties were played, each man calling one.

Bennie Allen, 34, 43, 22, 6, 0, 6, 1, 157. Points scored, 125. Safeties, 157. Perfect run, 61.

Jerome Keogh, 34, 42, 0, 14, 5, 0, 6, 150. Points scored, 30. Safeties, 1. High run, 14.

SEMPER SOLD TO QUAKER CITY GRAIN BROKER

Richardson Purchases Controlling Interest From President Minor. IS FRIEND OF GRIFFITH New Owner Declares He Will Place Winning Team in Washington.

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Out of a few scattered shares of stock, Mr. Richardson and Clark C. Griffith now have complete control of the club. The deal has been hanging over the past three weeks, but because of the unsettled conditions in the league the Quaker City broker held off until he could see the hanging clouds of the interleague war cleared.

Richardson stated last night that he would have no stone unturned in an attempt to place a winner in the national capital. The Philadelphia magnate stated that Griffith could go as far as he wanted in attempting to improve the Senators.

The sale of the Washington club was forced by the fans, who refused to patronize the games because of the raise in price a few years ago when the club held a "Johnson day" in appreciation of the brilliant pitcher.

This was in 1914. The fans were sore on the former board of directors and the move which was engineered by Clark C. Griffith was the best move that could have been made in organized baseball for the American League.

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Richardson Purchases Controlling Interest From President Minor. IS FRIEND OF GRIFFITH New Owner Declares He Will Place Winning Team in Washington.

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Out of a few scattered shares of stock, Mr. Richardson and Clark C. Griffith now have complete control of the club. The deal has been hanging over the past three weeks, but because of the unsettled conditions in the league the Quaker City broker held off until he could see the hanging clouds of the interleague war cleared.

Richardson stated last night that he would have no stone unturned in an attempt to place a winner in the national capital. The Philadelphia magnate stated that Griffith could go as far as he wanted in attempting to improve the Senators.

The sale of the Washington club was forced by the fans, who refused to patronize the games because of the raise in price a few years ago when the club held a "Johnson day" in appreciation of the brilliant pitcher.

This was in 1914. The fans were sore on the former board of directors and the move which was engineered by Clark C. Griffith was the best move that could have been made in organized baseball for the American League.